

Application No. 09/887,304

Atty. Docket No. 042390.P11655

Remarks

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1-3, 5, 9, 15-17, 19 and 22 have been amended. Claims 4, 7 and 18 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Thus, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-17 and 19-27 are pending.

Claims 1-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,651,217 B1 issued to Kennedy, et al. (*Kennedy*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,239,797 B1 issued to Hills, et al. (*Hills*). Claims 4, 7 and 18 have been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claims 4, 7 and 18 is moot. For at least the reasons set forth below, the Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-17 and 19-27 are not rendered obvious in view of *Kennedy* and *Hills*.

Independent claim 1 recites:

displaying a first page having a first form and a hidden form;
receiving *user-provided data* into the first form of the first page;
displaying a second form of a second page when the first page is submitted;
copying the data from the second form of the second page to the hidden form; and
posting the data from the hidden form to a server when the second page is submitted.

Claim 15 recites a machine-readable medium that provides instructions which, when executed by a machine, performs similar tasks. Thus, independent claims 1 and 15 each recite copying user-provided.

Even if the combination of *Kennedy* and *Hills* could be considered proper, the references still fail to teach every element of the claims. Applicants agree with the Office

Application No. 09/887,304

Atty. Docket No. 042390.P11655

Action that *Kennedy* does not disclose the hidden form as claimed. The Office Action asserts that *Hills* discloses a hidden form as claimed. However, the claims explicitly recited copying *user-provided* data to the hidden form. *Hills* discloses retrieving data *from a database* to be copied to the hidden form. See col. 4, lines 37-38. Therefore, no combination of *Kennedy* and *Hills* can teach or suggest the invention as claimed in claims 1 and 15.

Claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 8 depend from claim 1 and claims 16, 17 and 25-27 depend from claim 15. For at least the reason that dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, the Applicant submits that *Kennedy* and *Hills* do not render claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 16, 17 and 25-27 obvious.

Independent claim 9 recites:

requesting, from a server, a first web page having a first form and a hidden second form;
requesting, from the server, a second web page having a third form;
submitting the second web page by copying user-provided data from the third form to the second form and not posting data from the third form to the server;
copying data from the second form to the first form; and
submitting the first web page by posting data from the first form to the server.

Claims 19 and similarly recite copying user-provided data to a hidden form.

As discussed above, neither *Kennedy* nor *Hills* teaches or suggests copying user-provided data to a hidden form. Therefore, the applicant submits that the references do not render claims 9 and 19 obvious because they fail to teach or suggest the above-highlighted limitations of claims 9 and 19.

Application No. 09/887,304


Atty. Docket No. 042390.P11655

Claims 10-14 depend from claim 9 and claims 20 and 21 depend from claim 19. Claims 23 and 24 depend from claim 22. For at least the reason that dependent claims include the limitations of the claims from which they depend, the Applicant submits that *Kennedy* and *Hills* do not render claims 10-14, 20, 21, 23 and 24 obvious.

For at least the foregoing reasons, the applicant submits that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8-17 and 19-27 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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